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red and yellow. It must have described the complete arc of the heavens and had it not been for the brightness of the full moon, should nearly all have been observable by me."

NOTE.—The accompanying sketch has not been reproduced.

WHEATLAND,[*] October 22.—A most remarkable meteor was seen a few minutes past 6 o'clock this evening. It appeared in the west as a star of the magnitude of the evening star, and in close proximity to Jupiter.[†] It increased in size and gradually separated, first into two and finally into three distinct comet-shaped bodies. Following each other they sped toward the east and disappeared.—*S. F. Chronicle.*

HIGHLAND SPRINGS, October 23.—At 6:13 o'clock, last night, a meteoric display, such as is seldom seen, passed over here. It was composed of three large balls of fire moving from southwest to northeast. It looked as if the balls burst on the mountain north of Clear Lake.

THREE METEORS IN LINE.

NEVADA, CAL., October 22.—A triple connected meteor was observed in the northern heavens at ten minutes past 6 o'clock this evening. Three balls of fire, all in a row and connected like a train of cars, with a long fiery tail, flashed in view just a few degrees above the western horizon and traveled in a direction a little north of east. In half a minute they disappeared from view high in the heavens, apparently somewhere over the Great Dipper and North Star.

The sight was magnificent and awe-inspiring, and one long to be remembered, as it did not appear to be over forty or fifty miles above the earth. A splendid view of the triple-connected meteor was taken by W. M. Richards.—*S. F. Examiner*, Oct. 23, 1896.

This meteor was also seen by many visitors at the Cliff House, near San Francisco.

ON THE FORM OF THE CORONA OF AUGUST 9, 1896.

The Lick Observatory has just received three good positive copies of photographs of this eclipse, taken in Lapland by Dr. L. WUCHIKHOWSKY. A naked-eye sketch also accompanied the photographs. Professor HOLDEN has handed these over to me for examination.

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[*] Yuba County, California. [†] *I. e. Venus.*

A good illustration of how unsatisfactory and unreliable eye sketches are, is again shown by comparing the sketches, so far published in the various scientific journals (and the one above mentioned) with these photographs. In the sketches there is apparently no law of distribution of coronal matter with reference to the Sun's equator, while in the photographs the general form of the corona is in agreement with the form predicted by means of the "Mechanical Theory," being characterized by great polar extension, causing a tendency towards a nearly circular outline. See *Lick Observatory Report on the Eclipse of December, 1889*, page 76, Table V, and Plate VI, Figures 5 and 8.

It is a significant fact, that while this eclipse took place near the time of the sun-spot minimum, the coronal form corresponds to the type of coronas which astronomers have quite generally considered as belonging to the times when the Sun is most spotted.

J. M. SCHAEBERLE.

LICK OBSERVATORY, November 6, 1896.

PROPOSED GIFT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BY MRS. PHŒBE A. HEARST.

The daily papers of October 25th announce that it is the intention of Mrs. HEARST to present to the University of California two buildings to be erected at Berkeley. It is also said that it is Mrs. HEARST'S intention to endow, at least, one of the colleges at Berkeley. A Board of Trustees has been appointed to carry out Mrs. HEARST'S plans.

The university has long since outgrown its buildings; and there is probably no way in which its interests can be so efficiently furthered as by the provision of a group of buildings specially designed for their purposes and of high architectural excellence.

E. S. H.

October 26, 1896.

REQUEST FOR OBSERVATIONS OF COMET IV, 1895.

I have undertaken the definitive orbit of Comet IV, 1895, and shall be glad of any unpublished observations.

C. D. PERRINE.

MT. HAMILTON, October 19, 1896.